

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Pasture

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Pasture	Applicant:	
Final Ranking Score:	Address:	
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Water Quality	
1. a. Are the practices in the Schedule of Operations based upon a CNMP that has been developed in accordance with USDA, NRCS standards and includes the grazing herd.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Will the implementation of practice(s) within the Schedule of Operations result in livestock no longer receiving drinking water from direct contact with surface water resources?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. If 382, Fence is in the Schedule of Operations, will the fences be greater than 35 feet from ALL wetlands and water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. d. If 382, Fence is in the Schedule of Operations, will the fences be between 35 feet - 10 feet from ALL wetlands and water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant Condition	
2. a. Are the practices in this Schedule of Operations based upon a complete grazing plan that was written per CAP 110, Grazing Management Plan, criteria	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Residence period does not exceed 1 day per paddock, during times of year where plant growth is vigorous, as detailed in a completed grazing plan that meets CAP 110 criteria	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Livestock Health - Choose one from (a), (b) or (c)	
3. a. Are there enough grazing acres to meet 100% of the grazing requirements of the existing livestock at the time of application based on a completed grazing plan that meets CAP 110 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Is grazing likely to provide 75 -100 % of feed during the growing season, as calculated in a written grazing plan that meets CAP 110 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Is grazing likely to provide 50 - 75% of feed during the growing season, as calculated in a written grazing plan that meets CAP 110 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Does the Schedule of Operations include an appropriately size watering system per a completed grazing plan that meets CAP 110 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Condition	
4. a. Will the implementation of practice(s) within the Schedule of Operations result in the conversion of cropland to permanent perennial vegetation for livestock usage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Will the Schedule of Operations address soil health through the implementation of 511, Forage and Biomass Planting, 633 Waste Recycling, and/or 590 Nutrient Management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Does the Schedule of Operations include practices that will result in a condition that will meet or exceed the Pasture Condition Quality Criteria for Soil Compaction (score of 4 or greater)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Does the Schedule of Operations include practices that will result in a condition that will meet or exceed the Pasture Condition Quality Criteria for Soil Erosion (score of 4 or greater)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Plant Diversity	
5. a. Does the Schedule of Operations include practices that will result in a condition that will meet or exceed the Pasture Condition Quality Criteria for Plant Diversity (score of 4 or greater)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife	
6. a. Does the Schedule of Operations include installation of watering facilities with consideration for wildlife access?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Does the Schedule of Operations include practices like 327 Conservation Cover, 393 Field Borders, 391 Riparian Forest Buffers, 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Development, 612 Tree/Shrub Planting, 395 IPM or 647 Early Successional Habitat Management that are designed to benefit pollinators or other wildlife? (refer to New England Pollinator Handbook for design recommendations)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Does the Schedule of Operations include deferred grazing of pastureland in order to benefit ground nesting birds?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Location	
1. a. Do the practices in the Schedule of Operations address water quality at a confined livestock feeding operation that is located in a twelve (12) digit Hydrologic Unit code (HUC) watershed of a 303(d) listed stream?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Is this application located in a Public Water Supply Watershed or designated Aquifer Protection Area AND does it contain practices that address water quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Does the Schedule of Operations involves land that has been permanently protected through federal, state, local government programs or private land trusts?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Degree of Cooperation by Producer	
2. a. Have other Federal, State, local, or non governmental organization financial resources been committed to this project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Does the applicant have any contracts that are currently in violation (with a CPA-153) or have any contracts that were terminated for failure to comply with contract terms and provisions within the last 3 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Magnitude of Expected Benefits	
3. a. Will the practices in this Schedule of Operations directly benefit threatened or endangered species according to results obtained from the CT-DEEP NDDB (Natural Diversity Database)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Has the producer completed, or is currently enrolled in, an organic certification program recognized by USDA?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: Signature Date:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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